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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/023,161	12/18/2001	Coen Theodorus Hubertus Fransiscus Liedenbaum	NL000733	4667

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PHILIPS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & STANDARDS  
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EXAMINER

GUHARAY, KARABI

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2879

DATE MAILED: 01/19/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/023,161

Applicant(s)

LIEDENBAUM, COEN  
THEODORUS HUBERTUS FRA

Examiner

Karabi Guharay

Art Unit

2879

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM  
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 October 2004.  
2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.  
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.  
4a) Of the above claim(s) 6-8 is/are withdrawn from consideration.  
5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.  
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,4,5 and 10-20 is/are rejected.  
7) ☒ Claim(s) 2,3,8 and 9 is/are objected to.  
8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  
10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 19 December 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).  
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:  
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.  
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.  
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)  
6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

Amendment filed on 10/27/04 has been entered.

Amendments of claims overcome the objection and rejection of claims under 35 U.S.C. 112 second paragraph.

***Specification***

The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

In Abstract, at the end, " Fig 3" should be deleted.

Appropriate correction is required.

***Claim Objections***

Claims 2-5 are objected to because of the following informalities:

The claims are objected to because they include essential subject matter enclosed within parentheses. While reference characters corresponding to elements recited in the detailed description of the drawings and used in conjunction with the recitation of the same element or group of elements in the claims should be enclosed within parentheses, so as to avoid confusion with other numbers or characters which may appear in the claims, essential subject matter should not be enclosed within parentheses since references enclosed within parentheses do not constitute a limitation. See MPEP § 608.01(m).

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

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Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 5 recites the limitation "The reservoir (s)" in line 4. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 10-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Norihiro (JP 2000100562).

Regarding claim 10, Norihiro discloses an electroluminescent display device (10 of Fig 1 & Fig 3), comprising two parts (20, 12) which define a cavity (22) for accommodating an electroluminescent element (16), and which are sealed together by means of a thermosetting adhesive (30) present at the interface of the two parts (20, 12, see abstract), characterized in that at least one channel (26 & 28) is provided in the interface with respect to cavity (peripheral edge section), that allows thermosetting adhesive 30 to escape into the channel (28) during manufacturing of the device, thus allows pressure inside the cavity which is formed when cover is attached to the

substrate in the peripheral region to escape by channeling adhesive to the groove 28 (paragraph 0014 of machine translation).

Regarding claim 11, Norihiro discloses a device wherein a reservoir (28) for the adhesive (30) is present at one end of the channels 26 (see Fig 2, and lines 32 of page 3).

Regarding claim 12, Norihiro discloses a device wherein a capillary reservoir (28) is located at the end of the channels (26) that is farthest from the cavity (22), i.e. outside the cavity 22 (see Fig 2).

Regarding claim 13, Norihiro discloses a device wherein one of the parts (20) has a rectangular interface with the channels (26) being located in one (or more) of the corners of the rectangular interface (Fig 1 & Fig 3).

Regarding claim 14, Norihiro discloses a device comprising a substantially flat substrate (12) on which an electroluminescent element (16) is deposited and a preformed cover (20) of a sheet material, which is shaped to define part of the cavity (22), the channel(s) (26) and the reservoir 28 (Fig 1 & Fig 3).

Regarding claim 15, Norihiro discloses that the channel (26) is formed on one of the parts, on the substrate (12).

Regarding claims 16-20, Norihiro discloses that the channels (26) allows pressure inside the cavity to force a portion of the thermosetting adhesive into the channel during manufacturing and become sealed by the thermosetting adhesive, thus provides a pressure relief for the thermosetting adhesive (see paragraph 0007, and paragraphs 0015).

***Allowable Subject Matter***

Claims 1 & 8-9 are allowed.

Reasons for allowance have been presented in previous office action.

***Response to Arguments***

Applicant's arguments filed 10/27/04 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

In response to argument against the rejection of claim 10, examiner respectfully presents that while manufacturing the device, by attaching the two parts of the device with thermosetting adhesive, a pressure develops inside during attachment, which determines the amount of excess adhesive and which is being driven out to the groove 28, thus in other words groove 28 allows the pressure inside the cavity to escape into the groove during manufacturing.

In response to applicant's argument that the groove (28) is a relief groove not a reservoir, examiner wants to point out that reservoir means a place or thing which can contain some material. The groove 28 is made to contain adhesive, thus it is a reservoir.

In response to further argument that Norihio makes no disclosure or suggestion for pressure inside the cavity to force adhesive into the channel during manufacturing, examiner fully agrees, however, it is inherent and also supported by applicant's own disclosure.

Applicant, on page 2, teaches that channel allows displacement of adhesive, thus relieving the pressure. Therefore, displacement of excess adhesive during sealing basically relieves pressure inside the cavity through the channel.

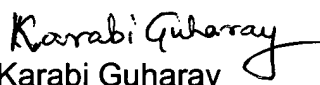
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**Contact Information**

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Karabi Guharay whose telephone number is (571) 272-2452. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:30 am - 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nimeshkumar D. Patel can be reached on (571) 272-2457. The fax phone number for the organization is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
Karabi Guharay  
Patent Examiner  
Art Unit 2879